

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

35 USC 102, 103

The Office rejected claims 1-21 as being anticipated by, or obvious over, Enchos (US 2002/0185637).

It appears that both the Office and the Applicant mis-interpreted the figures of the Enochs reference. Enochs figures 30 - 41 all show different aspects of the same device, which in figure 31 clearly shows both belts wound about the same roller, and therefore disposed in the same plane (see Brief Description of the Drawings, para. [0041-0052]. The Office's reference to Enochs para. [155] and Fig 42 to support its contention that it is known to provide panels in different planes, is also misplaced. Both the cited paragraph and the drawing fails to teach panels disposed in different planes.

In short, several of the previously filed claims were proper all along, and should have been allowed. Rather than return to the language of those previous claims, the Applicant proposes new amendments, which readily circumvent the teachings of Enochs:

- Claim 1 (along with its dependencies) is amended to specify that the first and second fabric panels are disposed on separate rollers;
- Claim 13 (along with its dependencies) is amended to recite that the panels are oriented parallel to a length of the support frame, in different planes;
- Claim 16 (along with its dependencies) is amended to recite first and second rollers having first and second panels, respectively;
- Claim 20 is amended to recite first and second panels disposed in different planes and parallel to the length of the lift; and
- Claim 21 (along with its dependency) is amended to recite first and second panels that are not co-planar.


These amendments should all be allowed at this stage. If, however, the Office still does not agree, then the Applicant respectfully requests entry of these amendments to prepare the application for appeal.

Request For Allowance

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. The applicant requests allowance of all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: 4/28/08

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